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Council to set priorities for coming year

A two-day special meeting of the City Council is scheduled for 8 a.m.-5 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 31 and Friday, Feb. 1 to discuss the City’s fiscal forecast and policy priorities for the next year. The meetings will be held at City Hall Council Chambers, 1500 Warburton Ave., and will be livestreamed on the City’s Facebook and YouTube, and archived on the City website.

The sessions will follow the format introduced by City Manager Deanna J. Santana at the January 2018 Council Goal & Priority Setting Session that emphasized a diligent review of Santa Clara’s budget situation and data-driven decision making. As a baseline, two statistically valid surveys were conducted last year to assess how residents rate the City on building community and enhancing quality of life. Of those surveyed,

- Approximately 90% have a positive view of Santa Clara as a place to live.
- More than half, 64%, feel City government is doing an excellent-to-good job.
- 64% feel the City is headed in the right direction.
- 60% gave the City high marks for keeping residents informed.

Many administrative improvements and modernization efforts were undertaken in 2018 to enhance service delivery and streamline the City government organization. Preparation of the 2018-19 fiscal year balanced budget was the first step in the transition to a two-year budget cycle and discussed within the framework of a 10-year financial forecast. This allows decision makers to have a clearer picture of the longer-term context of budget actions.

An overview of many of the achievements of 2018 is presented on page 3 and more information about last year’s accomplishments and plans for the Council Goal & Priority Setting Session can be found online, SantaClaraCA.gov/councilprioritysession.

Temporary dog park opens in January

A temporary, off leash dog facility, with areas for large and small dogs, will open in January in the low use area of Larry Marsalli Park,1425 Lafayette Blvd., while the Raymond G. Gamma Dog Park is closed for improvements. The temporary dog-friendly facility has paved parking and restroom facilities.



stakeholders’ meetings, surveys, and public discussions hosted by the Parks & Recreation Commission. For the latest updates, call 408-615-2260 or email parksandrecreation@santaclaraca.gov.

For locations of other dog parks in the area, visit the Silicon Valley Animal Control Authority website, SVACA.com/resources/dog-parks.

The upgrade of the permanent dog park is part of the construction project that is building the new Reed and Grant Streets Sports Park. It includes underground and above ground utilities, site grading, and the addition of a new dog park restroom, paved parking lot and lighting.

The City is seeking suggestions from the public on additional improvements for the Raymond G. Gamma Dog Park through

“Rainy Day” Reserve Fund reaches all-time high

As one of its last actions of 2018, the City Council in December approved the transfer of a one-time budget surplus of \$15.3 million into various City reserve accounts. The majority of the surplus, \$9.1 million, is being transferred into the General Fund Budget Stabilization Reserve (the City’s “Rainy Day” Fund). An additional \$15 million is expected to be added to the Reserve Fund in early 2019, bringing the total to more than \$78 million – an unprecedented high level.

The remainder of the surplus was divided among other City reserve accounts, including \$3.6 million to the Capital Projects Reserve to fund future investments into parks and other City facilities.

More revenue, less spending

The surplus from the 2017-2018 fiscal year that ended June 20, 2018 resulted from a combination of higher-than-anticipated revenues and lower-than-budgeted expenses. Total revenue was \$243.6 million, 3.3% higher than estimated. The increase came from four sources: property taxes; other taxes such as franchise tax, transient occupancy tax and documentary transfer tax; revenue from other agencies including the redistribution of land sale proceeds and ground leases as well as state-mandated reimbursement; and other fees for services such as plan check zoning and engineering, as well as recreational activity revenue. General Fund expenditures were \$10 million lower, or 4.2% less, than budgeted.

Protecting core services

City Council policy dictates that the City’s “Rainy Day” fund should be maintained at or above 25% of the adopted budget expenditures. It is designed to protect the General Fund from sudden and unexpected revenue fluctuations such as the 2008 economic crisis, considered to be the worst economic disaster in the U.S. since the Great Depression, that led to years of recession. The General Fund supports core municipal services such as police, fire, library, recreation, streets and other programs and activities for residents.

More information about the City budget and reserve accounts can be found on SantaClaraCA.gov/finance.

Serve the community

Residents who would like to contribute to the quality of life in the City of Santa Clara are encouraged to apply to serve on any of the City’s Board, Commissions or Committees including the Board of Library Trustees, Civil Service Commission, Cultural Commission, Historical & Landmarks Commission, Housing Rehabilitation Loan Committee, Parks & Recreation Commission, Planning Commission, Senior Advisory Commission and Youth Commission.

Information about current and upcoming vacancies can be found at SantaClaraCA.gov/commissions, or by contacting the City Clerk’s Office, 1500 Warburton Ave., clerk@santaclaraca.gov, or 408-615-2220.

Evacuation Preparedness
See page 17 for information on how to prepare yourself, your family and your neighborhood in case there is ever a need for an evacuation.

Dear Santa Clara Community,

The start of a new year is traditionally when many people are inspired to reorganize, refocus and renew their commitment to goals. The City of Santa Clara is no different. We are looking forward to the two-day Council Goal & Priority Setting Session on Jan. 31 and Feb. 1 to continue the significant strategic work and accomplishments that were accomplished last year.



City Manager
Deanna J. Santana

In January 2018, we reorganized the Council Goal & Priority Setting Session to a business meeting where the Council received information on longer-term financial projections, assessments of the state of the organization, department updates and challenges, and opportunities for community outreach and engagement. We also emphasized the importance of data-driven decision making as a process for going forward. The accomplishments we achieved in 2018 are briefly summarized on page 3, and we are eager to keep the momentum going in 2019. The session is open to the public and will be livestreamed from the Council Chambers.

The City Council has established a focus on reforms and, as part of that, Santa Clara is taking a fresh look at long-standing policies and practices to see if there are improvements that could be made for increased efficiency and cost savings. In a large and complex organization like the City of Santa Clara, this is an effort that can take some time, but we have made significant strides in streamlining and revising policies for better service delivery and transparency. Let me describe three examples.

Strategic Fiscal Management – Spending Less and Saving More

We have been working diligently to review all funds within the City’s operating and capital budgets. We will be presenting the City of Santa Clara’s revised 10-Year Fiscal Plan and changed assumptions and fiscal practices in January 2019. However, in December 2018, the City Council closed out the year with several significant budget actions which, in short, distributed unexpended funds amounting to \$15.3 million to various reserves. Most noteworthy is \$9.1 million to the General Fund Budget Stabilization Reserve which is the City’s “Rainy Day Fund” and \$3.6 million to the Capital Projects Reserve to fund future investments into our parks and other City facilities. These actions reflect that the City closed the final year under-budget and money unspent is being placed into reserves. It is a fact that the City is not overspending and we are practicing fiscal prudence in all that we do. These recent actions, as well as a planned \$15 million in reserve contribution early 2019, result in the General Fund Budget Stabilization Reserve at an unprecedented high of more than \$78 million, increasing the City’s “Rainy Day Fund” by 56 percent from the previous fiscal year. I take pride in Santa Clara’s actions to achieve this unparalleled record!

Convention Center Management – Managing Our Valued Asset

The Santa Clara Convention Center is one of the City’s valued assets. It draws thousands of people to this community every year for all types of events and generates economic benefit to the City and local businesses. Since 1984, the Convention Center was under the management of the Santa Clara Chamber of Commerce. An independent performance audit conducted in 2018 raised concerns that led to the City Council’s decision to terminate that contract and issue a Request for Proposal (RFP) for the operation and management of the Convention Center and tourism/visitor services. RFPs were received in December and the City expects to have an operator in place, with a new contract that includes more City oversight, by mid-March. The Council held a governance and business engagement workshop and the City launched an online survey, SantaClaraCA.gov/OpenCityHall, to receive input from the public and inform the selection of an operator.

Community Benefit for Treasured Events

A second example is the new Community Grant Policy, adopted by the City Council in September, that establishes a standardized process for the City to award grants to qualifying nonprofit community organizations, athletic and educational groups, or individuals, activities or events that provide a public benefit to Santa Clara and its residents. More details about how the policy works can be found at SantaClaraCA.gov/communitygrant.

Spring Activities

As usual, our City Library and the Parks & Recreation Department have a big line-up of events and activities for all ages planned for the coming months, including a Cherry Blossom Festival, a senior health and wellness fair, and the always-popular Egg Extravaganza in Central Park. Preparations are also being made for the annual State of the City presentation. Sign up for eNotify or read my online blog on SantaClaraCA.gov to stay updated on news and current events.

There is much going on in Santa Clara, and it requires the hard work of our City Council and dedicated staff and the engagement of people in the community to achieve our goals. After a little over a year as City Manager, I am grateful to our community, City Council, and workforce’s commitment to do their best for the future of Santa Clara and its well-deserved reputation as a wonderful place to live, work, play and raise a family. Happy New Year!

In community spirit,

Deanna J. Santana, City Manager

City Information Technology wins award

The City’s Department of Information Technology was awarded the 2018 Award for Excellence in Information Technology Practices from the Municipal Information Systems Association of California, the 13th time it has received this recognition.

The award signifies that the City meets or exceeds standards in the areas of IT operations, budgeting, strategic planning, purchasing, staffing, customer satisfaction, internet, project management and application development, professional development and training, disaster preparation and recovery, security, GIS and service delivery.

Many ways to stay informed

City Website: SantaClaraCA.gov

Visit the City website frequently to learn about services, events, issues and policy changes. Click on “News” in the Residents menu for easy access to new information.

Comcast Cable Channel 15

Tune in to watch live City Council, Santa Clara Stadium Authority or Planning Commission meetings or rebroadcasts. The station also carries agenda highlights and other municipal announcements.

City Manager Blog: SantaClaraCA.gov/emblog

The City Manager Blog, published every two weeks, provides a quick overview of City activities. Subscribe to receive current information about City issues and activities.

eNotify: SantaClaraCA.gov/enotify

Sign up to receive notices from the City about events, news, community meetings and employment opportunities. You decide what topics are of interest to you.

Santa Clara Source: SantaClaraCA.gov/scsource

Brief video recaps of City Council and Santa Clara Stadium Authority meetings are posted to help the public track issues and decisions. More detailed information including minutes and staff reports on agenda items and videos of full City Council, Santa Clara Stadium Authority and Planning Commission meetings are also on the City website SantaClaraCA.gov under the Government menu.

Tentative Meeting Agenda Calendar: SantaClaraCA.gov/TMAC

This calendar is published weekly to provide tentative dates and policy-level agenda items planned for City Council study sessions, joint Council/Commission meetings and regular Council meetings in the next three to four months.

Facebook: Facebook.com/CityofSantaClara

Follow the City of Santa Clara or specific City departments including Police, Library and Silicon Valley Power. City Council, Santa Clara Stadium Authority and Planning Commission meetings are also streamed live on Facebook.

YouTube: SantaClaraCA.gov/youtube

Visit the City’s YouTube channel to watch City Council, Santa Clara Stadium Authority and Planning Commission meetings streamed live, or to view past meetings, community events and public education videos.

Community Meetings: SantaClaraCA.gov/planning-community-meetings

Public forums are scheduled frequently to allow residents to learn more about proposed developments, park rehabilitations, new or revised policies, or other issues in the City. Sign up to receive notifications on eNotify or through the Community Development Department.

Nextdoor: Nextdoor.com

Sign up for this neighborhood networking tool and you will receive posts from the City of Santa Clara about public events, crime prevention, emergency notifications and more.

Twitter : Twitter.com/santaclaracity

Follow the City of Santa Clara or specific City departments including Police, Library and Silicon Valley Power.

LinkedIn

Look for posts from the City of Santa Clara or specific City departments including Human Resources and Silicon Valley Power.

MySantaClara App: SantaClaraCA.gov/mysantaclara

Download this free app to your smart phone to access more than 15 options for service requests or information. Find it in the Apple App Store or Google Play.

Nixle

Register on the webpage SCPD.org to receive updates from the Santa Clara Police Department, including traffic alerts.

It was a busy year! City accomplishments at a glance

In January 2018, the City Council identified six strategic priorities for Santa Clara. Below is a brief summary of the accomplishments that have been made in achieving these goals. A more detailed summary is available on the City website SantaClaraCA.gov.

Deliver and enhance high quality efficient services and infrastructure

- Silicon Valley Power, the City’s electric utility, now provides energy that is 100% coal and carbon free.
- New software was installed to manage the City’s 800 capital projects and provides real-time status.
- The MySantaClara app was relaunched to provide more services to residents 24/7.
- New policies and procedures are in place for purchasing, competitive bidding by vendors, and compliance with state law on prevailing wages.
- To maintain high performing public safety services, the City’s Computer-Aided Dispatch and Records Managements Systems were upgraded.

Promote and enhance economic and housing development

- A new Affordable Housing Policy requires the inclusions of 15% of affordable units for both for-sale and rental developments or a cash-in-lieu payment for the development of other affordable housing.
- Significant work was completed on five Specific Plans for strategically located areas of the City: Tasman East, El Camino Real, Patrick Henry, Freedom Circle and Downtown.



Hundreds attended the opening of the remodeled Mission Branch Library.

- Convention Center operations were audited and efforts are now underway to select a new operator that will have a contract that contains more City oversight.
- The Citywide Traffic Fee was updated to include all land uses and transportation modes.
- The next phases of Santa Clara Square and NVIDIA developments have begun.
- Developers were selected for two new affordable housing projects on City-owned land.
- The City reached a settlement agreement with the City of San Jose on the City Place project, clearing the way for the 9.1 million square foot development to proceed. Groundbreaking is planned for 2019.



Young Santa Clarans help with groundbreaking for the the Reed and Grant Streets Sports Park.

Enhance community sports and recreational assets

- Two new parks opened – Central Park Annex and San Tomas and Monroe Neighborhood Park and Community Garden.
- Groundbreaking took place for the Reed and Grant Streets Sports Park.
- Rehabilitation projects are in the works for Central Park, Agnew Park, Fuller Street Sports Court, Bowers Park and Machado Park.
- The Community Grants Policy was streamlined and \$155,000 in grants awarded.
- Mission Branch Library reopened after a year-long major renovation and upgrade.
- The Library launched Bookmobile services to neighborhoods, senior centers, schools, city and community events, and live-shop-work developments.
- A comprehensive infrastructure assessment of City facilities and parks was completed that will help with future decision making.

Enhance community engagement and transparency

- The City Manager now publishes a blog every two weeks with updates on current issues, events and achievements.
- Information memos were added to the City Council meeting agendas to provide transparency on key events that don’t require Council action or a public hearing.

- The City is posting more updates on Nextdoor, a social network site for neighborhoods.
- Open City Hall online surveys are being used to engage the community on City issues.
- Presentations of the annual State of the City were expanded to multiple locations.
- More information about events at Levi’s® Stadium is provided in advance.
- Communication with residents and the business community was increased through direct letters, expanded issues of Inside Santa Clara, news releases posted on the City website and verbal reports at City Council meetings.

Maintain adequate staffing levels

- Forty key management position vacancies were filled in one of the toughest hiring markets in the country.
- One new position was created, bringing the total number of Full Time Equivalent (FTE) staff to 1111.25.
- Five labor agreements were negotiated, and negotiations initiated with five additional labor groups.
- A Civic Scholars program was established to offer a flexible, no-cost opportunity for working adults to complete a bachelor’s degree.
- Quarterly management meetings focus on leadership and management training.



The City Library Bookmobile is serving more neighborhoods and community events.

Ensure compliance with Measure J and manage Levi’s® Stadium

- A comprehensive audit of the stadium’s budget and marketing plan was completed, leading to revisions on how contracts and other processes are managed. More financial and other data-driven documents about stadium operations are now available for public scrutiny.
- A telephone number was established for residents to call about stadium-related concerns, and a 24/7 noise monitoring program is now available for residents to track noise levels at the stadium and in surrounding neighborhoods.
- An extensive community engagement effort was launched to better understand the impacts of the stadium on the surrounding neighborhoods.
- The City negotiated an agreement for the College Football Championship game in January 2019 that does not include any City subsidies.



Residents are enjoying the new San Tomas and Monroe Neighborhood Park and Community Garden

College Football Playoff National Championship takes place in Santa Clara

The fifth annual College Football Playoff National Championship will be held at Levi’s® Stadium in Santa Clara on Monday, Jan. 7. More than 68,000 are expected to attend the game in person while more than 25 million watch it on ESPN. The game for national champion title is between the college teams that win the Orange Bowl and Cotton Bowl. A full day of outdoor activities and tailgating is planned for the Levi’s® Stadium parking lot and California’s Great America. Street closures, the security footprint, parking lot activation and other logistics will be similar to a normal, large scale event at the stadium. For information on traffic and other potential impacts to surrounding neighborhoods, visit SantaClaraCA.gov, or watch for social media posts.

The event is organized by the College Football Playoff organization and a nonprofit Bay Area Host Committee that is affiliated with the San Francisco 49ers, with no funding from the City of Santa Clara.

Bicycle Master Plan is nearing completion

The draft Santa Clara Bicycle Master Plan will be presented to the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee in early 2019. An additional public workshop will be scheduled in February before the final version of the Bicycle Master Plan is presented to the City Council for adoption by late spring 2019.

The goal of the Bicycle Master Plan is to identify where the City could create new or improve existing bikeways and trails across Santa Clara. Community outreach about the master plan was launched at the City’s Earth Day event in April 2018. Throughout the remainder of the year, there were additional public comment workshops, online surveys and pop-up events.

For current information on the Bicycle Master Plan, visit the website SantaClaraCA.gov/government/bicycle-plan-update. Comments or questions regarding the plan may be directed to Marshall Johnson at 408-615-3023 or email MJohnson@santaclaraca.gov.



Birds and people flock to Ulistac in spring

Ulistac Natural Area is a 40-acre open space in Santa Clara that showcases California native vegetation and wildlife habitat. It is located along the Guadalupe River on Lick Mill Boulevard between Tasman Drive and Montague Expressway, and is the last natural, undeveloped land in the city.

As a result of continuing restoration efforts by volunteers, Ulistac has become a popular site for birds during the fall and spring migration season. According to ebird, an online database of bird activity recorded by thousands of birdwatchers around the world, there have been 178 different species of birds spotted at Ulistac. As its bird activity increases, so do the number of birdwatcher visitors who come to Ulistac – including some from out of state. Ulistac is also home to butterflies, jackrabbits, lizards, gophers and other wildlife.

Each spring, Ulistac celebrates Wildflower Day, a free event that features information booths, music and craft activities for the whole family. The date is determined by when it is anticipated the most wildflowers will be in bloom. For information, visit Ulistac.org.



Volunteers clear pathways in Ulistac, removing weeds and overgrowth. Photo credit: Ulistac Natural Area Restoration & Education Project.

Volunteers needed

Volunteer work sessions are held twice a month at Ulistac, on the first Saturday of the month and the third Sunday of the month from 9 a.m. to noon. All ages are welcome but children under the age of 14 must be accompanied by an adult. No registration is required, and gloves and tools are provided. Volunteers should bring sunblock, water and a hat, and wear closed-toes sturdy shoes. For more information, visit Ulistac.org.



The California thrasher is one of many birds that can be found year-round at Ulistac.

Photo credit: Erica Flehken.

Ice rink open until Jan. 21

Santa Clara Ice, the City’s outdoor ice rink in Central Park, 969 Kiely Blvd., is open until Jan. 21.

Enjoy this unique skating experience by enrolling in a class, booking a birthday party, or dropping by for recreational skating. The fee is \$10 for children 4-12 years old, \$15 for adults and includes two hours of skating, plus skate rental. Children under three are free with a paid adult. Day and season passes are also available. For those new to the ice, rent a walker for extra support.

The rink is open seven days a week, including holidays. For more information and operating hours, visit SantaClaraOnIce.com or call 408-615-3140.



Voters approve two City measures in November election

Voters in Santa Clara approved both City of Santa Clara measures that were on the Nov. 6, 2018 ballot. Measure M and N needed a simple majority vote for passage.

Measure M is a cannabis business tax that will establish a tax on commercial cannabis for up to 10% of gross receipts and up to \$25 per square foot for cultivation. This tax will only be paid by those involved in the cannabis industry. The general tax on cannabis could generate up to \$2.2 million annually to the City’s general fund for local services.

The City Council has extended a temporary ban on all commercial cannabis activity until June 30, 2019. This extension will give the City more time over the coming year to develop commercial cannabis regulations consistent with State of California regulations. Over the next several months, the Council will hold public hearings regarding the proposed regulations on the sale of cannabis within city limits.

The voters also approved Measure N which was an advisory vote asking whether the City Charter should be amended to include district Council elections. Measure N preserves the City’s existing citywide elected offices for Mayor, Chief of Police and City Clerk. This past summer, a court ordered that the City be divided into six City Council districts in which councilmembers are elected only by the voters who live in their district. Previously, all city councilmembers were elected citywide. In the November election, voters in Districts 2 and 3 elected their councilmembers. It is expected that there will be a public process to draft a charter amendment in accord with Measure N.

Fire Department receives prestigious accreditation

The Santa Clara Fire Department has been awarded International Accreditation Status from the Commission for Fire Accreditation International. This prestigious recognition came after a 20-month process that included the development of a five-year, community driven strategic plan, a community risk assessment and peer review to ascertain that industry best practices are in place.

The accreditation status is valid for five years and requires continuous improvement efforts. The Fire Department will develop an annual report that reviews the performance of all divisions and make the report available to the public by Feb. 1 of each calendar year. It can be found on the website SantaClaraCA.gov.

The Commission on Fire Accreditation International consists of 11 members that represent a cross-section of fire and emergency services including fire departments, city and county management, labor, standards development organizations, and the U.S. Department of Defense.

Support 100% solar power in 2019

Looking for ways to be more sustainable in 2019? Silicon Valley Power’s nationally recognized green power program, Santa Clara Green Power, is an easy and affordable way to ensure that electricity used at your home or business comes from renewable energy sources.

In 2018, Santa Clara Green Power transitioned to 100% solar energy - most of which is generated in California. When you join Santa Clara Green Power, zero-emission solar energy is purchased on your behalf by Silicon Valley Power. Currently, more than 4,000 Santa Clarans are supporting the growth of solar energy by participating in Santa Clara Green Power.

To enroll in Santa Clara Green Power, contact Silicon Valley Power at 408-244-SAVE (7283), email green@siliconvalleypower.com, or visit SiliconValleyPower.com/green.

The 2017 Historic Product Content Label reflects the product content mix prior to Santa Clara Green Power’s transition to 100% solar energy.

2017 HISTORIC PRODUCT CONTENT LABEL¹

Santa Clara Green Power matches 100% of your electricity usage. In 2017, **Santa Clara Green Power** was made up of the following new renewable resources averaged annually. In 2018, **Santa Clara Green Power** began offering 100% Western Solar. See our Prospective Product Content Label online to learn more.


Green-e Energy Certified New ² Renewables in Santa Clara Green Power 2017		Generation Location
Solar	81%	CA
Wind	19%	ID
Total	100%	

1. These figures reflect the power delivered to **Santa Clara Green Power** customers in 2017.

2. New Renewables come from generation facilities that first began commercial operation within the past 15 years. This product may include generation from facilities that were approved for extended use under a strict set of criteria by Green-e Energy and/or qualify as repowered.

For comparison, in 2017 the average mix of resources supplying Silicon Valley Power included: Eligible Renewable (38%), Coal (9%), Large Hydroelectric (34%), Natural Gas (16%), Unspecified sources of power (3%). Source: SiliconValleyPower.com/svp-and-community/about-svp/power-content-label.

The average home in Santa Clara uses 420 kWh per month (Silicon Valley Power Utility Fact Sheet Jan-Dec 2017). For specific information about this product, please contact Silicon Valley Power at 408-244-SAVE (7283), email green@siliconvalleypower.com, or visit SiliconValleyPower.com/green.



Energy

Green-e CERTIFIED

Santa Clara Green Power is Green-e Energy certified, and meets the environmental and consumer protection standards set forth by the nonprofit Center for Resource Solutions. Learn more at www.green-e.org.

Looking for 2019-20 Youth Commissioners

Applications for the 2019-20 Youth Commission will be available beginning Jan. 28 at Santa Clara City facilities including the libraries, Youth Activity Center, and Community Recreation Center. Applications are due March 11 and in-person interviews will be held March 23.

The 2019-20 Youth Commission will meet monthly, August through May, to advise the City Council on matters pertaining to the youth and teen population. Commissioners also plan a number of community events, including Sunset Cinemas, an inclusive makerspace and Run Santa Clara 5K.

Fifteen Santa Clara residents ages 12-19, representing various middle and high schools, comprise the Youth Commission. For further information, visit SantaClaraCA.gov/youthcommission.



Members of the 2018-19 Youth Commission: (Front Row, L to R) Adrienne Krivokapic-Zhou, Jasmine Kelly-Tanti, Meera Suresh, Bella Jimenez, Kayla Phan, Sanjana Yerramaneni. (Back Row, L to R) Yusra Arub, Antonio Davila, Natasha Yen, Siya Sharma, Smrithi Suresh, Vincent Kloes, Caroline Kloes, Ria Grewal, Damarah Madriaga

Volunteers create a thriving Senior Center

Every year, hundreds of active volunteers donate thousands of hours of service to the Santa Clara Senior Center. Their dedication, hard work and enthusiasm add to the vibrancy of the Senior Center. Volunteers have fun and make new friends.



Additional volunteers are needed to help with ongoing programs and special events. To find out more about volunteer opportunities, visit the Senior Center or visit SantaClaraCA.gov.

Be prepared for rainy season

Santa Clara’s heaviest rain typically arrives during the months of January through March. The City works closely with the Santa Clara Valley Water District and the National Weather Service during the storm season to keep the community informed about potential flooding.

To receive emergency warnings about flooding or other urgent situations, sign up for the County’s Emergency Alert System at AlertSCC.com. It is a free and confidential way for everyone in Santa Clara County to get emergency warnings sent directly to their cell phone, mobile device, email or landline. When needed, the City of Santa Clara will issue flood warnings or evacuation orders via AlertSCC. Sign up for “extreme weather” news on SantaClaraCA.gov/enotify.

A new and improved flood map information service is now available from the City’s Planning Division. Residents can find out if there are any local drainage problems near their property, get estimated flood depth, past flood information, and whether failure of local dams would potentially impact the property. Contact the Planning Division at 408-615-2450 or Planning@santaclaraca.gov to get flood information for a particular property, or visit the City Hall Permit Center, 1500 Warburton Ave.

Want to know what you can do to reduce or prevent possible flood damages to your property? The Department of Public Works can help by reviewing photos of your property and providing suggestions. Contact Public Works at 408-615-3000 or Engineering@santaclaraca.gov for more information on this free service or to make an appointment. All building construction requires a building permit and a licensed engineer and/or contractor. Suggestions provided by Public Works staff are not a substitute for a building permit review process or plans prepared by a licensed engineer.

Activities for every age, every interest

Central Park Nights Fridays, Jan. 4, 11, 18

Free entertainment for the entire family beginning at 6 p.m. at the Central Park outdoor ice rink, 909 Kiely Blvd. Friday nights are also discount ice skating prices for high school students. For information, call 408-615-3140.

Spanish-English Bilingual Storytime Sundays, Jan. 6, Feb. 3, March 3, April 7

Children of all ages and their caregivers are invited to enjoy songs, rhymes and stories in both English and Spanish at 2 p.m. at Central Park Library, 2635 Homestead Rd. For information, visit SCLibrary.org.

Blood Drive Thursdays, Jan. 10 and May 16

The City of Santa Clara will host a blood drive in Council Chambers, 1500 Warburton Ave., from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sign up online at BloodHeroes.com and use the sponsor code “santaclara.” For information, call 408-615-2080 or email humanresources@santaclaraca.gov.

Librarypalooza Saturday, Feb. 2

“Bollywood Nights” is the theme of this year’s annual Librarypalooza 6:30-9:30 p.m. at Central Park Library, 2635 Homestead Rd. In addition to entertainment and delicious food, the evening will honor Keith Stattenfield, a longtime volunteer with Santa Clara City Library Foundation & Friends. Keith has served as an officer and Board member, and runs the organization’s website and updates the blog. For ticket information, visit LoveTheLibrary.org.

Preschool Exploration Fair Monday, Feb. 11

Directors and teachers from Santa Clara preschools will be at Central Park Library, 2635 Homestead Rd., at 6 p.m. to answer parents’ questions about how to select the best preschool for their children. For information, visit SCLibrary.org.

“The Lost Virginity Tour” Play Feb. 15-March 9

The Santa Clara Players present this comedy/drama that is set in the Happy Trails Senior Resort Living in Surprise, Arizona. Four friends share stories of their “first time” and make plans for a road trip to revisit the locations where each lost their virginity. For tickets, visit SantaClaraPlayers.org.

Science Day Saturday, Feb. 23

Enjoy a full day of science related activities starting at 10 a.m. at Northside Branch Library, 695 Moreland Way, including experiments, hands-on activities and fun performances. Registration is required. For information, visit SCLibrary.org.

“Pirates of Penzance” Concert Sunday, March 17

Gilbert and Sullivan’s comic opera about pirates, maidens, love and duty is performed by the Santa Clara Chorale at 2 p.m. at the Santa Clara Mission. It will also be performed on Friday, March 15, 7 p.m. at Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church with singers from The Music School. For ticket information, visit SCC.org.

Cherry Blossom Festival Saturday, March 23 (tentative)

Celebrate Japanese culture with Taiko drumming and crafts at Northside Branch Library, 695 Moreland Way.

College Pathways Monday, April 8

Students in grades 9-12 and their parents are invited to come to Central Park Library, 2635 Homestead Rd., at 7 p.m. to learn about the different college systems and how community college is becoming a popular path to university. To register or for more information, visit SCLibrary.org.

Citywide Garage Sale Saturday, April 13

As a seller, get rid of clutter and earn some cash! As a buyer, find unexpected treasures! Register for individual, multi-family, or block garage sales on the City’s website, SantaClaraCA.gov/garagesale.



Egg Extravaganza Saturday, April 21

The annual Egg Extravaganza for children will begin promptly at 9 a.m., rain or shine, in Central Park, 909 Kiely Blvd. Parking is limited. For information call 408-615-3140.

“The Glass Menagerie” Play April 26-May 18

The Tennessee Williams classic story of a St. Louis family in turmoil is presented by the Santa Clara Players. For ticket information, visit SantaClaraPlayers.org.

Star Wars Day Saturday, May 4

Meet and take pictures with the characters from Star Wars, beginning at 2 p.m. at Central Park Library, 2635 Homestead Rd. Free activities include crafts and prize drawings. For information, visit SCLibrary.org.



Mother’s Day Tea Party Saturday, May 11

Celebrate this special occasion with moms, aunts and grandmothers at a 2 p.m. tea party at Central Park Library, 2635 Homestead Rd. There will be refreshments, crafts and a handmade gift for mothers to take home. To register or for more information, visit SCLibrary.org.

“Lux Aeterna” Concert Friday, May 10

The Santa Clara Chorale performs two masterpieces – John Rutter’s “Requiem” and Mortan Lauridsen’s “Lux Aeterna” – at 8 p.m. at the Santa Clara Mission. The Chorale is joined by members of the San Jose Chamber Orchestra and choirs of Santa Clara University. For ticket information, visit SCC.org.

“Be Strong, Live Long” Health & Wellness Fair Friday, May 17

Older adults who want to improve their health and individuals caring for older adults will appreciate the variety of information booths and resources assembled for this event in Fremont Park adjacent to the Senior Center, 1303 Fremont St. Activities between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. include interactive booths, health screenings (vision, hearing, blood pressure), live music and a healthy barbecue lunch available for purchase.

Coming to the Triton Museum of Art

Two outstanding exhibitions will open in early 2019 at the Triton Museum of Art, 1505 Warburton Ave. “Mark Eanes: The Passionate Spectator” will run Feb. 2-April 21, showcasing his paintings that are an exploration into seeing. “Going Places: Drawings by Ric Ambrose” will be on display Jan. 26-April 14. His panoramic drawings are a compilation of disparate urban images. For further information on activities at the Triton Museum, including its Annual Gala on Saturday, May 4, visit TritonMuseum.org.



City Library takes lead in annual Silicon Valley Reads program

Santa Clara City Library’s reputation as a leading provider of local history and genealogy programs in the region made it an obvious choice to be one of the major participants in the 2019 Silicon Valley Reads program and its focus on “Finding Identity in Family History.”

Each year, Silicon Valley Reads selects books that reflect a theme relevant to this community and asks residents throughout Santa Clara County to read, think and share their diverse perspectives.

One of the three featured authors for 2019 will make a personal appearance at Central Park Library, 2635 Homestead Rd. Paula Madison, author of *Finding Samuel Lowe*, will discuss her



Paula Williams Madison

book and engage the audience in Q&A on Sunday, March 17, at 3 p.m.

A 90-minute documentary version of Madison’s search for her family will be shown on Wednesday, March 20, 7 p.m., at Central

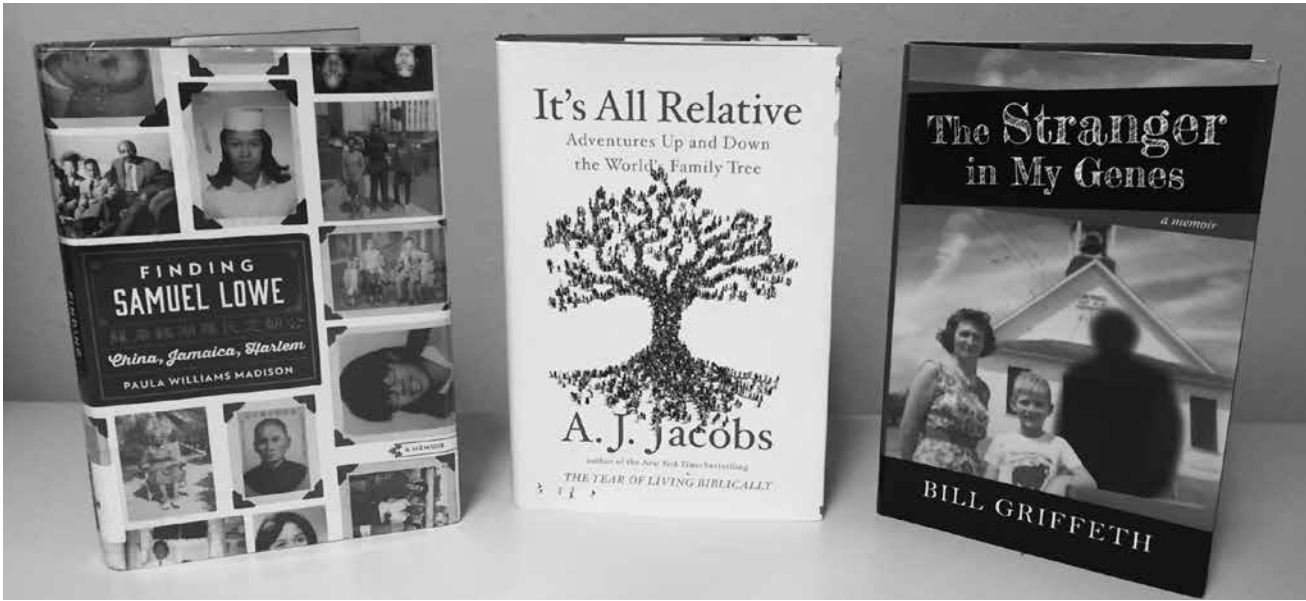
Park Library, 2635 Homestead Rd. Her book will be discussed at drop-in book groups at Mission Branch Library, 1098 Lexington St., on Wednesday, March 13, 6:30 p.m. and at Central Park Library on Tuesday, March 26, 10:30 a.m.

Madison’s book, *Finding Samuel Lowe*, describes growing up in Harlem and feeling that her family was somehow different from the African-American families around her. Her quest to learn more about her mother’s roots in Jamaica leads to the discovery of a Chinese grandfather and eventually reconnection with 300 long-lost relatives in China.

“Blacks in the Americas have a multi-faceted history and a multi-racial genealogy,” said Madison, a nationally-honored journalist and retired NBC executive. “Many people presume that Black Americans’ racial composition is solely African and Caucasian, but our racial makeup isn’t always so obvious – not always so black and white. When you look at me, for example, what do you see? African-American would be the most popular guess and Jamaican-American would be second. Few people would guess Chinese! I am all of these.”

Special for children

For children, Santa Clara City Library will offer a special storytime reading of *Alma and How She Got Her Name* with a craft-making session, including family trees, on Wednesday, Feb. 27, 4 p.m. at Central Park Library, 2635 Homestead Rd.



Three books are the featured selections for Silicon Valley Reads 2019 and its focus on “Finding Identity in Family History”: *Finding Samuel Lowe* by Paula Williams Madison; *It’s All Relative* by A.J. Jacobs; and *The Stranger In My Genes* by Bill Griffeth. There are also companion books for children and teens: *Alma and How She Got Her Name* by Juana Martinez-Neal for grades Pre-K to 3; *The Blossoming Universe of Violet Diamond* by Brenda Woods for grades 4 to 7; and *Picture Us In The Light* by Kelly Loy Gilbert for grades 8 and up.

Genealogy classes

A robust schedule of free genealogy classes will be offered at Central Park Library, 2635 Homestead Rd., to help residents learn more about their family history and themselves. Many of the programs are co-sponsored by the Santa Clara County Historical & Genealogical Society, and some require pre-registration. For more details visit SCLibrary.org or SCCHGS.org.

DNA Special Interest Group Tuesdays, Jan. 8, Feb. 5, March 5, April 2, May 7 – 2:30-4 p.m.

Learn how DNA can help you discover your family roots.

Finding Ethel – Utilizing Local and Regional Resources Tuesday, Jan. 15 – 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Expand your family research to include original sources.

Getting Started with Genealogy Friday, Jan. 18 – 1-4 p.m.

Learn the basics of what genealogy research documents you need and where to find them.

DNA Basics for Genealogists: How Four Testing Companies Can Change Your Family Tree Wednesday, Jan. 23 – 1-3:30 p.m. Thursday, March 28 – 1-3:30 p.m. Friday, March 29 – 1-3:30 p.m.

This basic introduction to DNA testing covers the four different types and compares the top four DNA testing companies.

German Special Interest Group

This is an informal gathering of genealogists interested in German family history that meets once a month on rotating Tuesdays and Fridays. Check the website SCLibrary.org for details.

Free Genealogy Databases at Santa Clara City Library

Friday, Feb. 1 – 1-2 p.m.

Become familiar with the many genealogy databases you can access through the library.

Genealogy for Families New to America Sunday, Feb. 10 – 1:30-2:30 p.m.

This program helps people whose family history won’t be found in the U.S. find records and capture the stories of older relatives.

Bullion Bend: Confederate Stagecoach Robbers, Murder Trials and the California Supreme Court Tuesday, Feb. 19 – 2-4 p.m.

Hear the amazing and true story of a Wild West caper that occurred during the Civil War’s final year.

Census 101: An Introduction to Searching the U.S. Federal and State Censuses Friday, Feb. 22 – 1-4:30 p.m.

Learn how to find census information to advance the search for your ancestors.

Census 102: Digging Deeper into Little Known State and Federal Censuses Thursday, Feb. 28 – 10:15-11:45 a.m.

This presentation compares different censuses.

Creative Hypothesis Development for Complex Genealogy Problems Tuesday, March 19 – 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Learn how to develop multiple hypotheses to open your thinking and explore possibilities.

Getting Started: Organization Thursday, March 21 – 1-4:30 p.m.

Learn how to organize both hard copy and digital information for your genealogy research.

More information on Silicon Valley Reads books and activities can be found at SiliconValleyReads.org.

Friday Night Live

Live entertainment sponsored by the Cultural Commission that brings together the arts, education and cultural awareness. All performances are free and open to all ages.



Friday, Feb. 15 Tabia (African American Performance Ensemble)

7:30-9 p.m. at Central Park Library
2635 Homestead Rd.



Friday, March 1 Broceliande (Celtic)

7:30-9 p.m. at Triton Museum of Art
1505 Warburton Ave.



Friday, April 5 Charged Particles (Contemporary Jazz)

7:30-9 p.m. at Triton Museum of Art
1505 Warburton Ave.

New and upgraded parks coming to Santa Clara in 2019

Construction is underway of the new Reed and Grant Streets Sports Park that will feature five lighted soccer fields, a multi-purpose community recreation building, a children’s playground, picnic area, off-street parking and other amenities. Construction is expected to be completed in fall 2019.



Bowers Park Plan



Machado Park Plan

It is not the only park that will soon be offering the Santa Clara community new outdoor recreation options. Bowers Park, 2582 Cabrillo Ave., and Machado Park, 3360 Cabrillo Ave., will receive enhanced and inclusive play elements, more trees, expanded picnic areas, habitat restoration, and pathway installation. Construction on these projects will begin this spring and is funded from City residential development fees, California Parks and Recreation Society, and Playcore.

Four additional parks or playgrounds in Santa Clara are scheduled for rehabilitation and upgrades: Montague Park, 3595 MacGregor Lane; Homeridge Park Playground, 2985 Stevenson St.; Fuller Street Park Sports Court, 61 Fuller St.; and Agnew Park Playground, 2150 Agnew Rd. Each project has its own timeline and all have been the focus of community meetings to determine what the public would like to see happen in each space.

The City also recently completed an upgrade at Lick Mill Park, 4750 Lick Mill Blvd., converting 30 pathway light fixtures from high pressure sodium to energy efficient LEDs to provide better lighting along park pathways.

All of the improvements underway or planned for the City’s parks were identified in a comprehensive Facility Condition Assessment completed in 2017.

Further information about the plans for City parks and playgrounds can be found on the City website SantaClaraCA.gov on the Parks & Recreation Department “Park Projects” page.

Comprehensive plan outlines City’s energy future

As required by state law, Silicon Valley Power, the City’s electric utility, has developed a comprehensive Integrated Resources Plan (IRP) that will be submitted to the California Energy Commission by April 30.

The IRP includes resource needs, policy goals, physical and operational constraints, and proposed resource choices. It will provide a framework for the California Energy Commission to evaluate how utilities have chosen to align with the state’s greenhouse gas emission reduction targets, and other energy and policy goals.

Silicon Valley Power used input from a multi-pronged community outreach effort in the development of the IRP. Throughout 2018, stakeholders were contacted through meetings and online surveys to gather customer priorities for their energy future.

Further information about the Integrated Resources Plan can be found at SiliconValleyPower.com.

Pedestrian Master Plan needs resident input



The City of Santa Clara is developing its first Pedestrian Master Plan, a guideline for how walking can be a more viable and safe transportation option for the entire community. An online survey will be available in Winter 2019 to collect information from residents about what locations and/or corridors need walking improvements. To take the survey, go to SantaClaraCA.gov/government/pedestrianmasterplan.

Additional community outreach is planned including community workshops and pop up booths at City events. Alta Planning + Design, is also collecting field data, preparing a pedestrian needs analysis and developing recommended improvements for the draft Pedestrian Master Plan that is expected to be complete in winter 2020. The project is funded by a State Transportation Planning Grant.

A community that is conducive to walking for all ages reduces the environmental impacts caused by vehicle traffic and improves the health of residents.

For additional information, contact Carol Shariat at cshariat@santaclaraca.gov or 408-615-3024.

3rd Comic Con another big success

More than 7,500 adults, teens and children attended the 3rd annual Santa Clara City Library Comic Con in October. Special guests included the creators of “Star Wars Resistance” and graphic novelists Ru Xu and Nidhi Chanani. Attendees created geek crafts for all ages, shopped with local businesses Illusive Comics and Tatsu Hobby, sketched along with local artist Genevieve Santos, jumped into tabletop gaming with Game Kastle, and learned how to swing a lightsaber with the Saber Guild.

Sponsored by the Santa Clara City Library Foundation & Friends, Comic Con brings residents face to face with creators of art, comics and film, while highlighting the role that graphic novels and pop culture can play in sparking literacy at any age.



Upcoming City Holidays

- Tuesday, Jan. 1.**
New Year’s Day
City offices closed. No garbage, Clean Green, recycling collection. Garbage, Clean Green and recycling collection one day late for remainder of the week.
- Monday, Jan. 21**
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday
City offices closed. Regular schedule for garbage, Clean Green, recycling collection.
- Monday, Feb. 18**
Presidents Day
City offices closed. Regular schedule for garbage, Clean Green, recycling collection.
- Friday, April 19**
Spring Holiday
City offices closed. Regular schedule for garbage, Clean Green, recycling collection.
- Monday, May 27**
Memorial Day
City offices closed. Regular schedule for garbage, Clean Green, recycling collection.

Volunteer as Reserve Firefighter

Volunteers have been a big part of the Santa Clara Fire Department since its inception in 1854, and the department provides training and on-the-job experience to individuals who want to participate in the community. For information and online application, visit the Fire Department page of the City website SantaClaraCA.gov.

Two popular City programs are looking for participants

Two programs designed to offer the community the opportunity to learn more about municipal government and its services are scheduled to begin in the next few weeks. Both are seeking additional participants.

Leadership Santa Clara

Leadership Santa Clara begins its 2019 program on Feb. 7. Applications must be received by Jan. 11. Participants meet from January through May at a variety of locations within Santa Clara, with a graduation held in June. Topics include the past, present and future of the City of Santa Clara, an overview of regional issues, and leadership skills.

For further information, contact Scott Summerfield at smmrfld@aol.com or 925-249-9320.

Citizens’ Police Academy

The 12-week Citizens’ Police Academy is offered twice a year, with the spring academy running January through May and the fall academy running August through November. Participants get a behind the scenes, in-depth look at the organizational structure, functions and operational procedures of the Santa Clara Police Department, and a greater understanding of law enforcement.

The curriculum and teaching methods are similar to those of the regular Police Academy, with a mixture of lectures, demonstrations, videos, tours and hands-on activities in a safe, controlled environment. The weekly sessions are not intended to train participants to be a law enforcement professional, but rather produce more informed citizens. Each session is taught by sworn officers and civilian professionals (Records Specialists, Public Safety Dispatchers, Jail Service Officers, Community Service Officers, etc.) in a friendly setting. Topics vary from session to session based on trends in law enforcement.

Participants are required to attend all sessions and are encouraged to actively engage in class discussions. Sessions generally meet one night per week, 6-10 p.m. and one Saturday. To be considered for a 2019 session, submit an online application at SCPD.org. For more information, contact Carolyn McDowell at 408-615-4892 or cmcdowell@santaclaraca.gov.

City Council welcomes input

Every City Council meeting includes an opportunity for residents to speak on items on the agenda and about topics not on the agenda. In addition, the public can submit requests that an issue be added to the City Council regular agenda. It must be on a subject that is within the jurisdiction of the City Council and the request must be made in writing to the City Clerk’s Office. For information, visit the City Clerk page of SantaClaraCA.gov or call 408-615-2220.



Comprehensive Zoning Code update is goal for 2019

A comprehensive review and update of the City of Santa Clara Zoning Code is now underway – the first significant reorganization of its content and format since 1969. A citywide community workshop will be scheduled in 2019 to provide an overview of the Zoning Code update and to receive input on new or modified regulations that are being considered.

Vision for growth

The Zoning Code regulates building form and activities within private development throughout the City. It is intended to implement the City’s vision for growth as it is described in the General Plan.

For instance, single family homeowners who want to add on to their existing house must follow the setbacks and height standards called out in the Zoning Code for their specific district. Also, operation standards such as the number of parking spaces or operating hours for commercial and industrial businesses are also included in the Zoning Code. Because some activities or development projects require more City oversight and community outreach and input, the Zoning Code specifies which type of permit processes must include public hearings where neighbors are noticed through mailings versus permits which can be approved by City staff at the Permit Center at City Hall.

The City of Santa Clara’s first Zoning Code was adopted on July 6, 1925. At that time, the Zoning Code had only four districts—residential, multifamily residential, commercial and industrial. It was updated and reorganized in 1960 and then more significantly modified in 1969.

Modernizing the Code

While amendments to individual aspects of the Zoning Code have been made throughout the years, no comprehensive update has been done until now. City staff is working to modernize the Zoning Code so that it is easier to navigate, and reflects the uses and development patterns contained in the General Plan 2035 that was adopted in 2010.

The update to the Zoning Code also provides an opportunity for the City to evaluate how to regulate modern activities which have gained popularity such as allowing more outdoor seating or simplifying processes to permit community events on private property. It may also address how to regulate short-term housing rentals through platforms such as Airbnb or VRBO, or whether to modify parking standards in areas with alternative transportation infrastructure.

The City is also considering a potential overlay of the Zoning Code for the Old Quad Neighborhood that would take into account the unique historic resources of this area and its proximity to Santa Clara University.

For more information on the Zoning Code update and to learn about 2019 workshops when they are scheduled, sign up on eNotify or visit the website SantaClaraCA.gov/zoning.

A black and white photograph showing a group of people from an overhead perspective. They are gathered around a table, looking at a large sheet of paper that has "LEARN + LEAD" written on it in bold, hand-drawn letters. There are several coffee cups on the table, and the people appear to be engaged in a collaborative activity or meeting.

Lead Santa Clara into the future!

Enroll in Leadership Santa Clara 2019

Santa Clara residents, business owners and employees of local businesses are invited to learn more about their community and prepare for taking on leadership roles in government, neighborhood, civic and nonprofit organizations.

Sessions generally meet monthly, February through May, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., at a variety of locations within Santa Clara. In addition to learning more about the past, present and future of Santa Clara, participants become more aware of regional issues such as transportation, energy and health care, and improve on leadership skills such as public presentations, meeting management, working with the media and ethical decision-making. Special activities include Public Safety Day that includes a trip to the Emergency Operations Center, Education Day, and mock Planning Commission and City Council meetings.

For information on tuition costs, schedules and registration deadline, contact Leadership Santa Clara Program Coordinator Scott Summerfield at smmrfld@aol.com or 925-249-9320.

SantaClaraCA.gov/LeadershipSC

City offers rehabilitation loans and grants to eligible homeowners

Does your home need reroofing, plumbing, electrical, foundation, handicapped access modifications, water conservation devices or other repairs?

Homeowners who cannot afford to pay for these or other repairs may qualify for low-interest rehabilitation loans and grants from the City of Santa Clara Neighborhood Conservation and Improvement Program (NCIP).

“I am grateful to the City for this program. I could not afford to get the bathrooms fixed ... they are so beautiful now.”

Since 1976, the City has assisted more than 1,600 homeowners to rehabilitate their homes, address health and safety issues, and ensure compliance with the current Building Code. The Housing & Community Services Division manages this program, which is designed for owner-occupied single family homes whose owners have a gross income at or below 80% of the median income in Santa Clara County. The program offers grants for accessibility improvements and emergency repair needs, and low-interest deferred loans for more significant projects.



An old bathroom in need of renovation.



The bathroom renovated with help from the City's Neighborhood Conservation and Improvement Program.

Through NCIP, the City of Santa Clara partners with individual homeowners to identify rehabilitation needs, select a contractor and design team, and to provide financial and technical assistance in managing the construction process. After determining eligibility, the rehabilitation staff will inspect the home for health and safety hazards.

Providing that the applicant's home is brought up to health and safety standards, several additional home modification items for handicapped accessibility may be eligible for funding. City funded grant or loan accessibility modifications include, but are not limited to:

- Ramps and/or lifts
- Grab bars and altered toilets
- Bathtub/shower
- Widening of doorways and hallways

- Replacement of door knobs with lever or octagonal handles
- Sliding doors
- Appropriate floor coverings
- Cabinet access
- Removal of materials and/or architectural barriers
- Light switches lowered
- Modifications to the structure or systems necessary for hearing or sight-impaired applicants

For information, contact the Housing and Community Services Division at 408-615-2490 or visit SantaClaraCA.gov.

Contractors needed

Local licensed and bonded general contractors and contractors with expertise in electrical, plumbing, roofing, plastering, concrete, window, flooring, painting and HVAC are invited to apply to rehabilitate Santa Clara houses whose homeowners cannot afford to make repairs on their own. Each year, the City helps eligible residents with affordable loans and grants through the Neighborhood Conservation & Improvement Program (NCIP). In addition to financial assistance, the City supervises contractor work. For more information on how to become an approved contractor for this program, call 408-615-2490.

Mark your calendar

Two big events are coming up this spring at Levi's® Stadium. On Friday, April 13, Monster Jam® returns for a night of entertainment that pushes high powered Monster Jam trucks to their limits. On Friday, May 18, the Rolling Stones will bring their “No Filter” tour to Santa Clara. Both events are expected to be sell-outs. Check the City website SantaClaraCA.gov for updates on traffic and other event details.

Job Opportunities

The City of Santa Clara hires for various positions throughout the year. To stay informed about positions as they become available, complete a job interest card to receive an email whenever a position in the categories you have selected is accepting applications. For information, visit SantaClaraCA.gov/jobinterest.

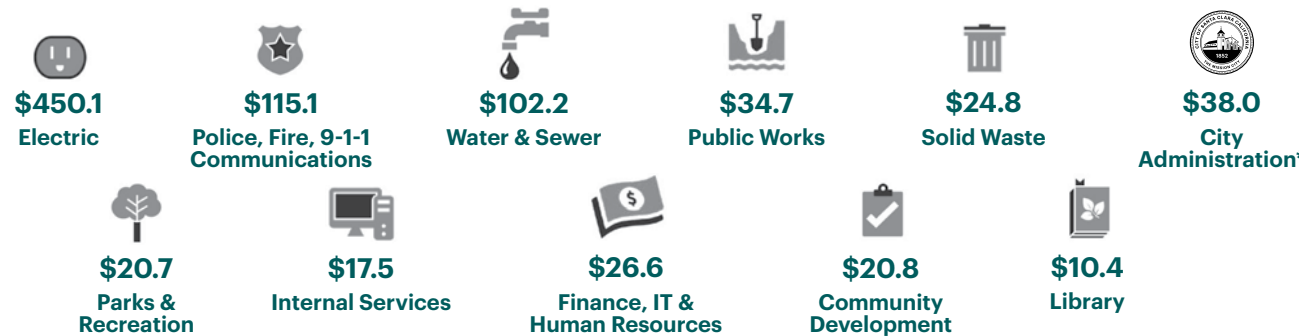
Budget planning sessions coming this spring

Work is underway on the development of the City's two-year operating budget for fiscal years 2019-20 and 2020-21. A public study session will be scheduled this spring before the City Council public hearing to adopt the budget in June. The new fiscal year begins July 1, 2019.

Budget discussions will include the General Fund that is used for basic City services such as police, fire, library, parks, recreation, streets, etc., and any changes to the approved 2019-20 Capital Improvement Projects and Enterprise Funds for utilities.

To stay informed about the proposed budget, sign up for eNotify or visit the Finance Department page on the City website SantaClaraCA.gov. The webpage also includes a budget brochure detailing the sources of revenue for the City budget and how funds are spent.

How the City's 2018-19 Operating Budget is allocated (in millions)



*Includes City Council, City Attorney, City Clerk, City Manager's Office and Non-Departmental

Community Committee meets to advise Police Department

Fifteen community members have been selected to serve on the Police Chief’s Advisory Committee, a group that will meet quarterly to advise the Chief and Assistant Chief on policies, strategies and priorities that could influence or impact the relationship between the Police Department and the community it serves.

Examples of the types of items the committee may discuss include feedback for a crisis response and communication plan, questions for an online customer satisfaction form, insight on a potential drone deployment strategy, and suggestions for the development of a safer city strategy.

To learn more about the committee and the Santa Clara Police Department, visit SCPD.org.



Back row (L to R) - Sudhanshu Jain, Grant McCauley, Madan Menon, Joanna Thompson, Corinne Sanfilippo, Dave Molyneaux, Aaron Dillon, Assistant Police Chief Dan Winter. Front row (L to R) - Caitlin Frates, Ram Misra, Jennifer Roman, Anne Hansen, Maria Horwich, Lino Arauz, David Yeem, Kamal Koraitem.

Recreation Activity Guide is coming

The Parks & Recreation Department’s 2019 Spring/Summer Activity Guide will be available online at SantaClaraCA.gov/ParksandRec beginning Feb. 27. The print version will be available on Feb. 28 at City facilities including: Central Park Library, 2635 Homestead Rd., Northside Branch Library, 695 Moreland Way; Mission Branch Library, 1098 Lexington St.; City Hall, 1500 Warburton Ave.; Teen Center, 2446 Cabrillo Ave.; Community Recreation Center, 969 Kiely Blvd.; and Walter E. Schmidt Youth Activity Center, 2450 Cabrillo Ave.

The Activity Guide features classes and activities for all ages including creative arts, dance, fitness, inclusive programming, sports, and special events. Residents can register online or by mail beginning Feb. 28 and walk-in starting March 11.

Foster care needed for spring kitten season

The annual signs of spring—trees bud, flowers bloom and kittens are born. Unfortunately, hundreds of kittens are homeless and taken to the Silicon Valley Animal Control Authority (SVACA) Animal Care Center to await adoption.



SVACA’s Foster Care Program was developed to help underage kittens and pups that are admitted every spring and summer. A team of foster volunteers tends to these kittens by bringing them home and nurturing them until they are ready for adoption at about the eight-week mark. Some are bottle fed and others are just socialized and given just the right amount of tender loving care to transform them into wonderful pets.

Another facet of foster care is done in-house in the Happy Meower Program for kittens who come in like little lions and turn into lambs after being socialized, loved and

handled to overcome their fear of humans. Successful graduates of this program are then adopted.

Fostering is a rewarding and fun experience. To find out more about fostering and other volunteer opportunities at SVACA, visit the website SVACA.com or sign up for eNotify at SVACA.com/how-to-help/volunteers.

SVACA provides the cities of Campbell, Monte Sereno, Mountain View and Santa Clara with the care of sick, injured, lost and abandoned companion animals, animal cruelty investigations, enforcement of animal laws, education and outreach programs, and other services. Last year, 95% of the animals received at the cageless Animal Care Center, 3370 Thomas Rd., Santa Clara, were saved.

Electricity rates change in January

A 2% rate increase for Silicon Valley Power, the City’s electric utility, goes into effect in January. Funds will be used to complete necessary maintenance to the electric system and to cover the rising costs of transmitting power. Santa Clara’s electricity rates will remain among the lowest for California utilities serving more than 5,000 customers.

System improvements will include replacing old power poles, crossarms and transformers to prevent outages and to maintain high quality service. California transmission costs have risen by almost 200% in recent years, placing pressure on Silicon Valley Power electricity rates as it works to meet Santa Clara’s energy needs. The rate increase and system updates will help ensure a reliable power system in the future.

Santa Clara Senior Center Services

The City of Santa Clara Senior Center provides a safe, positive and welcoming environment for adults ages 50+. The goal is to make available facilities, programs and services that meet the widely varying needs of older adults in our community as they age – from active senior to the frail elderly.

For program and service information, refer to the monthly Senior Center newsletter available at the Senior Center or on the website SantaClaraCA.gov/SeniorCenter. For specific questions, call 408-615-3170.



Programs and services at the Senior Center include:

- Adventures to Go Travel Program
- Ballroom Dances
- Care Management Services
- Classes – Fitness & Special Interest
- Computer Lab
- Dining Out - Senior Nutrition Program
- Drop-in Ceramics, Lapidary, Woodshop
- Drop-in Activities – Billiards, Darts, Shuffleboard, Bingo, Card Games
- Fitness Center and Natatorium
- Health Education and Coaching – Blood Pressure Checks, Evidence Based Programing, Health Screenings
- Health Insurance and Medicare Counseling (HICAP)
- Information Referral for Seniors (formerly SPA)
- Legal Assistance (SALA)
- Support Groups
- Welcome Newcomers (information meeting and tour of center)



Santa Clara Senior Center
1303 Fremont St. (at Monroe)
Monday-Thursday: 7 a.m.-7 p.m.
Friday: 7 a.m.-5 p.m.
Saturday: 9 a.m.-noon
Sunday: closed

Make every day Earth Day in Santa Clara

April 25 is Arbor Day/Earth Day celebration

Join with hundreds of residents to celebrate Arbor Day/Earth Day on Thursday, April 25, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. at the Central Park Pavilion, 908 Kiely Blvd. This family-friendly event features dozens of booths with environmental education, music and “Tree City USA” recognition to Santa Clara from the Arbor Day Foundation. For more information, visit SantaClaraCA.gov/arborday.

Learn about composting

Composting helps create a healthy and beautiful garden while conserving water and reducing pollution and waste. Learn the basics of how to compost at home at a free workshop on Saturday, Feb. 16, at the Machado Park Building, 3360 Cabrillo Ave. To register, visit ReduceWaste.org or call 408-918-4640. Classes are co-sponsored by the Recycling and Waste Reduction Commission of Santa Clara County and the City of Santa Clara.

Businesses must recycle organics, avoid plastic straws

California disposes of more than 30 million tons of waste in landfills each year. One third of that is typically organic waste that can be composted or otherwise recycled.

Starting Jan. 1, commercial businesses generating four cubic yards or more of garbage per week must separate organic waste for recycling. This includes businesses such as restaurants, supermarkets and large venues.

A new state law prohibits full-service restaurants from providing single-use plastic straws unless customers explicitly request them. Fast food restaurants and paper straws are exempt. The goal is to reduce the amount of plastic litter that can impair waterways and negatively affect wildlife.

For more information, call 408-615-3080 or email Environment@santaclaraca.gov.

Environmental Day is March 2

Safely dispose of items on Environmental Day, Saturday, March 2, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., at the Recology facility, 1675 Rogers Ave. in San Jose.

This free event only for Santa Clara residents promotes recycling, reuse, and diversion of usable materials from the landfill. Materials accepted: clothing, e-waste (computers, monitors, printers, etc.), universal waste (batteries, cell phone, CFLs and fluorescent light tubes) and children’s plastic play structures and toys. In addition, residents can bring confidential documents for shredding.

Residents must provide a current utility bill and personal identification (i.e. driver’s license) to verify eligibility for this free drop-off program. For more information, contact Recology South Bay at 408-970-5100.

Bike to Work on May 9

The 25th annual Bay Area Bike to Work Day is set for Thursday, May 9. Treats and encouragement will be available at energizer stations. For information, visit BikeSiliconValley.org.



Fun interactive booths are a big part of the City’s annual Arbor Day/Earth Day celebration in Central Park.

Dispose of unwanted and expired medications

Medicines help treat diseases, manage chronic conditions, and improve health and well-being for millions of Americans. As important as it is that patients take medicines as prescribed by their health care provider, it is equally important to properly dispose of expired or unwanted medication. Never flush medication down the toilet or sink.

The Santa Clara Police Department partners with MED-Project to offer a free, safe and convenient drop-off service for residents to dispose of unwanted and expired medicines. To protect your privacy and provide a safe situation for individuals disposing of these medicines, take the following steps:

- Cross off or remove personal identifying information from the medicine bottle
- Leave the product in its original container or place solid medicines in a sealed plastic bag.
- Place medicines in the disposal kiosk at the Police Building, 601 El Camino Real, or the Northside Substation, 3992 Rivermark Parkway.



Medications in any dosage in their original container or sealed bag, except for those listed here, are accepted. Items not accepted include herbal remedies, vitamins, supplements, cosmetics, other personal care products, compressed cylinders, aerosols, inhalers, medical devices, sharps, illicit drugs and iodine-containing medications.

Homebound and disabled individuals can contact MED-Project to request a pre-paid envelope to return unwanted or expired medicine by contacting MED-Project at Med-Project.org or 1-844-MED-PROJ.

If you are experiencing a medical emergency, call 9-1-1. If you are experiencing a non-emergency but suspect that you or a family member has ingested something poisonous, call Poison Control at 1-800-222-1222.

Save the rain!

The City of Santa Clara is encouraging households to capture and store rainwater for use in watering lawns, gardens or indoor plants by offering a rebate to residents who purchase a rain barrel. Eligible rain barrels must have a minimum of 50-gallon storage capacity and be purchased after March 20, 2018. Rebates of up to \$100 per residential utility account are available.

For more information on the rebate program and how to effectively use and maintain rain barrels, visit SantaClaraCA.gov/waterrebates, email waterrebates@santaclaraca.gov or call Water & Sewer at 408-615-2000.

Take action to protect the environment

Safely dispose of Household Hazardous Waste

Household hazardous waste is material commonly found in the home that, if disposed of incorrectly, would be harmful to people and the environment. This includes items such as household cleaning products, paints, pesticides, sharps, batteries and lightbulbs. California hazardous waste rules ban residents from throwing away listed wastes into trash cans.



Residents have access to a convenient way to safely dispose of Household Hazardous Waste at free drop-off events scheduled in Santa Clara on Saturdays, Jan. 26 and April 27. Additional drop-off events are held at other locations in the county throughout the year. An appointment is required and can be made by calling 408-299-7300 or online at HHW.org.

Items that can be dropped off include: household cleaners, pesticides, herbicides, paint products, car and household batteries, fluorescent bulbs and tubes, solvents, waste oil, automotive products, household medications and sharps

containers. Ammunition, explosives, radioactive materials and containers larger than five gallons will not be accepted.

Some hazardous wastes can also be disposed of through other resources, including:

• **Motor oil and oil filter**

If disposed in landfills, the oil could seep into the well water supply. Instead, these can be collected as part of your curbside recycling collection. Place motor oil in a plastic container labeled “waste oil” and tape the lid down with masking or duct tape. Place used oil filters in a leak-proof plastic bag. Place items by your recycling cart on your regular collection day. You may set out up to three 1-gallon containers of used motor oil per week.

• **Dry cell battery**

Batteries contain mercury, acid, lead, nickel, lithium and other heavy metals that, if buried in landfills, could leach into soil and water sources. Drop off batteries at any Santa Clara Fire Station seven days a week 8 a.m.-5 p.m.



• **Fluorescent bulb**

Fluorescent tubes contain small amounts of highly toxic mercury that can build up in the atmosphere and eventually fall back down in rain and pollute waters if not properly disposed of. Fluorescent bulbs can be dropped off at any of these locations:

- Bay Lighting: 979 El Camino Real
- Home Depot: 2435 Lafayette St. (compact fluorescent light bulbs only)

• **Explosives and Ammunition**

Call the Police Department at 408-615-4700.

• **E-waste**

Electronic wastes include everyday electronics such as cellphones, computers, microwaves, or any other electronic appliances. These “e-wastes” usually contain trace amounts of mercury and other heavy metals and need to be disposed of correctly as well. Call the Household Hazardous Waste Program at 408-299-7300 to arrange a drop-off.

• **Paint**

Drop off at any of these locations:

- Sherwin-Williams: 1717 El Camino Real
- Kelly-Moore: 2057 El Camino Real



If you are unsure whether you have hazardous waste or questions about what to do with it, call the Household Hazardous Waste Program for Santa Clara County at 408-299-7300.

Tour Water Purification Center

The public is invited to tour the Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center to learn how recycled waste water from Santa Clara and other communities is being used to help produce purified water for a variety of uses.



The free 90-minute walking tours explain the advanced treatment processes and the role of recycled and purified water as a future sustainable water supply. Children must be over the age of 10 and children under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult/guardian at all times. The facility is located at 4190 Zanker Rd., San Jose, adjacent to the San Jose-Santa Clara Regional Wastewater Facility. Sign up for tours online at PureWater4u.org.

The state-of-the-art Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center is the largest advanced water purification plant in Northern California.

What goes into the recycling cart?

Combine glass food and beverage jars, plastic containers, papers and all metal food and beverage containers in the blue recycling cart.

Place curbside for pickup the night before or by 7 a.m. Incorrect set out may result in non-collection



Further information

Recology Santa Clara
RecologySouthBay.com
408-970-5100

Cardboard	Flatten cardboard so that it fits inside the cart with the lid closed. Remove all packing materials before placing cardboard boxes into the cart. Extra cardboard that cannot fit into the cart may be flattened into 3 ft x 3 ft sections and neatly stacked alongside the recycling cart.
Glass	All glass bottles and jars of any color. No light bulbs or window glass
Metal	Aluminum cans, aluminum foil and trays (clean), paint cans (must be empty or dry), spray cans (must be empty), steel (tin) cans
Paper	Bags (paper, all colors), cardboard, egg cartons (non-styrofoam), envelopes, mail, magazines, milk and juice cartons, newspapers, soft cover books, phone books, wrapping paper (non-metallic), school and office papers
Shredded paper	Place in a clear plastic bag or securely closed paper bag and place in the recycling cart.
Plastic	All plastics with or without the recycling symbols 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 7. Not acceptable is #6 styrofoam/polystyrene
Plastic bags	Bundle together grocery, produce, dry cleaning and bread bags inside a clear plastic bag and place in the recycling cart

Special set out items (not in cart)	
Used motor oil and oil filters	Place used motor oil in a plastic container no larger than 1 gallon with a screw top lid. You may place up to three 1-gallon containers next to your recycling cart for pick up. Put used oil filters (fully drained) in sealed, leak-proof plastic bags and place next to the recycling cart
Compact fluorescent light bulbs	Place in clear Ziploc-type bags and place next to the recycling cart
Batteries	May be dropped off at local fire stations or placed in a Ziplock-type bag on top of your garbage cart for weekly collection.

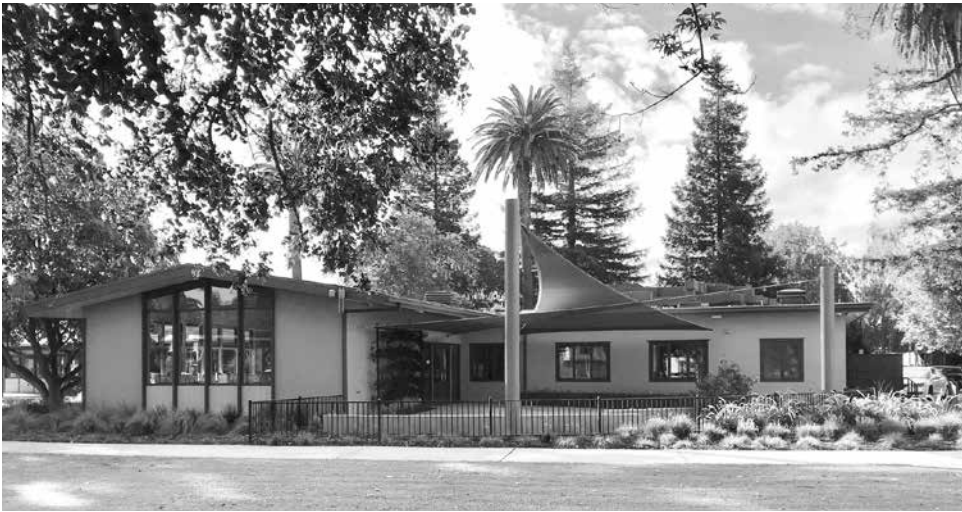
Keep out of recycling cart

Food contaminated packaging, packing peanuts or Styrofoam, garden hoses, rubber gloves
These items should be disposed of in your garbage cart.

Residents love new look, programs of Mission Branch Library

After several months of extensive renovation, Mission Branch Library reopened for business at the end of September. Residents of all ages have been surging through the doors ever since to enjoy its new space, new programs and new hours of operation.

Mission Branch Library, 1098 Lexington St., is now open Mondays and Tuesdays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Wednesdays and Thursdays, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Fridays and Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. It is closed on Sunday.



New programs for children and families include family storytimes, every Tuesday and Saturday at 10:30 a.m., and family events many Saturday afternoons. Parenting programs are offered the third Wednesday evening of every month. Teen and student programs are scheduled for Thursday evenings.

Adult library patrons are invited to a drop-in book club the second Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. Many events for seniors are scheduled on Wednesday afternoons. Details on all of these programs and others are on the website SCLibrary.org.



Mission Branch Library, located in historic City Plaza Park, was originally built in 1954. After decades of service to the community, it was a facility that needed to be revamped to meet the needs of today’s library patrons including more flexible use of space, upgraded technology and ADA accessibility, and additional space. Lighting was improved and skylights added for more natural light. The remodel achieved LEED Silver status for its energy efficiency.

A major fundraising effort by members of the Santa Clara City Library Foundation & Friends resulted in a \$130,000 donation to the City of Santa Clara to help upgrade Mission Branch Library’s furnishings and fixtures and expand programs.



Council to hear high speed rail update

A presentation on the status and next steps in Northern California High-Speed Rail Project is tentatively scheduled for the Feb. 19 City Council meeting. Although there is no high-speed rail station currently planned for Santa Clara, it will use the existing Caltrain corridor that runs through the city.

The Caltrain corridor between San Francisco and San Jose is in the process of being electrified which will allow both Caltrain and High-Speed Rail to share tracks in a blended system. High-speed rail could go into service as early as 2027.

For more information on the Council presentation, visit SantaClaraCA.gov or call 408-615-2450. For information on the High-Speed Rail Authority, visit HSR.ca.gov.

Crime Prevention presentations available

The Santa Clara Police Department’s Crime Prevention Unit offers community presentations on a variety of topics, such as home and neighborhood safety, car break-in prevention, fraud and identity theft, and internet safety.

If you are interested in scheduling a presentation for your neighborhood or organization, contact Community Service Officer Michael Robinson at 408-615-4872 or mrobinson@santaclaraca.gov. Be prepared to provide information on potential date, time and location of the presentation, and a description of the size and type of audience and topics you would like covered. If you are leaving a message, include your name, address, phone and email.

Santa Clara City Council

Lisa M. Gillmor, Mayor
Kathy Watanabe, Vice Mayor
Raj Chahal, Councilmember
Karen Hardy, Councilmember
Teresa O’Neill, Councilmember
Patricia Mahan, Councilmember
Debi Davis, Councilmember

Deanna J. Santana, City Manager
Brian Doyle, City Attorney
Hosam Haggag, City Clerk

City Mission Statement

The mission of the City of Santa Clara is to promote a living and working environment that allows for the best quality of life by serving the community with resourceful, efficient, progressive and professional leadership. - Adopted by Council action, July 25, 1989



Roberta Jones Junior Theatre celebrates 50 years

On Friday, March 22, exactly 50 years from its original opening day, Roberta Jones Junior Theatre will open its 50th anniversary season with “Honk,” a musical re-telling of the classic children’s story “The Ugly Duckling.” The show features beautiful music, hilarious dialogue, and a heart-warming transformation of “ugly” into a beautiful swan. For ticket information, go to RJJT.org.

Founded in 1969 as a creative, theatrical outlet for Santa Clara youth, the Roberta Jones Junior Theatre puts on five shows a year. Its first production was “Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs” and recent shows have included “Pinocchio,” “Disney’s Beauty and the Beast,” “Jack and the Beanstalk” and “The Music Man.”

Every child is welcome

Over the past five decades, Roberta Jones Junior Theatre has worked with more than 32,000 children and performed for more than 350,000 audience members. Since the beginning, all technical crew jobs have been performed by local youth, ages 8-18. Additionally, the theatre has had a policy of casting every child who auditions for the productions.

The program is named after Roberta Jones who was a founder of a community theater group now called Santa Clara Players and who led the establishment of a children’s theater group. In honor of her 31 years of service to the youth of Santa Clara, the program was named after her.

Roberta believed that the job of the staff at Roberta Jones Junior Theatre is to teach young people, guiding them to increase their levels of personal responsibility as they make a full commitment to such large projects as musical theatre productions. Her overarching value has remained the same for 50 years -- every child is to be treated as an important and vital member of the team.

Many opportunities

Visit RJJT.org for details about classes, auditions, performances, technical crew and fees. Roberta Jones Junior Theatre is a program of the City of Santa Clara Parks & Recreation Department. For more information, contact Kevin Cornelius, Recreation Supervisor, at 408-615-3161 or kcornelius@santaclaraca.gov.

Library helps adults earn high school diploma and career certificate

Thanks to a grant from the California State Library, the Santa Clara City Library is offering adults who live or work in Santa Clara the opportunity to earn a high school diploma and a career certificate through the Career Online High School program.

The program is open to anyone age 19 or older who has completed at least 8th grade and can commit to a minimum of 10 hours a week on coursework. A personal academic coach is assigned to each student and participants have 24/7 access to an online classroom. Career Online High School must be completed in 18 months and can be finished in as few as five months. Students set their own pace.

Career options include food and hospitality, office management, child care and education, retail customer service, commercial driving, leisure and hospitality, certified protection officer, and homeland security.

For more information, visit SantaClaraCA.gov/cohs or call 408-615-2956.

New hazardous materials vehicle added to Fire Department fleet

A new hazardous materials response vehicle, outfitted with the most current equipment and technology, has been added to the Fire Department’s fleet of emergency response vehicles. It was purchased with funds voluntarily contributed by developer The Irvine Company.

The vehicle features an onboard command center, a mobile laboratory for chemical analysis, and specialized equipment to contain large chemical spills. These assets enhance the Fire Department’s ability to protect the community from hazardous materials spills and other related emergencies.



Planning for a revitalized downtown off to a fast start in 2019!

The City of Santa Clara is enthusiastically planning for the revitalization of its downtown in close collaboration with Reclaiming Our Downtown, the Old Quad Residents Association, Santa Clara University and all interested community members.

Santa Clara’s historic downtown has deep roots for many residents. It holds history and memories for longtime residents, and the promise of fresh starts for others who are new to the city or starting a new phase of their life or career.

The goal is to rebuild the eight blocks of downtown (bounded by Benton Street, Monroe Street, Lafayette Street and Homestead Road) that was demolished during an urban renewal program in the 1960s. With the exception of Franklin Mall, no developer came forward with a viable project for the area and when the program ended in 1973, the City was left with many empty lots.



Franklin Street circa 1940

In the past year, a series of community planning workshops were completed, forging ties with key stakeholders including Reclaiming Our Downtown, an emerging community group founded in 2016 by a grassroots group of four that now has 3,300 members. This group would like to see the original street grid reinstated and development encouraged that will include residences with street level retail, gathering spaces, dining, shopping and entertainment uses. Its vision also includes a trolley that would run between Franklin Street, the Santa Clara Transit Station and other nearby landmarks.

In the coming year, preparation of the Downtown Precise Plan will be the next step in achieving the goal of restoring a vibrant downtown that will be an important gathering place within the local community as well as a symbolic center for all of Santa Clara. The timing is right since the City owns approximately six of the 21 acres in the downtown area for which leases will expire by 2022. In addition, the City is seeing growing development interest in the adjacent Santa Clara Transit Station area that is less than a mile away and is served by Caltrain, Altamont Commuter Express, Valley Transportation Authority bus service, and a future Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) station.

The City Council has approved a budget of \$400,000 for the preparation of a Downtown Precise Plan and work started on it at the end of 2018. To learn more about the City’s planning process, visit SantaClaraCA.gov/DowntownPrecisePlan.

Special thanks to Ana Vargas-Smith of Reclaiming Our Downtown who contributed to this article.

Save money on heating costs with attic insulation

Even in a mild climate, weatherizing a home can result in saving money on energy bills. In Santa Clara, for example, installing attic insulation can reduce heating and cooling costs by an estimated 14%.

Upgrading attic insulation is one of the most cost effective ways to make a home more comfortable. Proper attic insulation makes the most of a home’s heating and cooling system by helping to keep heated or cooled air from escaping. It stops cold air from seeping into the home on winter days and absorbs excess heat shining down on a roof in the summer. This means fewer chilly winter mornings and stifling summer afternoons.

Silicon Valley Power, the City’s municipal electric utility, is helping residents make this upgrade with an attic insulation rebate. Residents can receive 10 cents per square foot for installing new attic insulation. With the minimum R-38 attic insulation starting at 55 – 88 cents per square foot, this rebate helps make the upgrade more economical for homeowners.

The rebate is available for all single-family and multi-family homes with electric heating and an attic space separated by a physical barrier. In order to be eligible, the attic’s existing insulation must have an insulation value of less than R-19, or less than seven inches of existing insulation, and new insulation must have an insulation value of R-38 or greater. Preapproval is required. For more information, or to apply for the rebate, visit SiliconValleyPower.com/insulation or call 408-244-SAVE (7283).

More ways to save

Other ways to reduce heating costs during the winter include turning down your thermostat 10 to 15 degrees at night and making sure your furnace is clean and unblocked. When the sun’s out, open curtains and blinds on south-facing windows and close all window coverings at night.

The Silicon Valley Power website SiliconValleyPower.com contains additional information on ways to save energy including a step-by-step guide on how to install weather stripping, outlet gaskets, window caulking and more.

Housing help offered at the Library

Residents who are having problems with housing can find help at the Central Park Library, 2635 Homestead Rd., every first Thursday of the month, 6-8:30 p.m. Services include help with low income assistance, landlord/tenant disputes, first time homebuyer advice, debt management, housing search, eviction, and shared housing.

For information, visit SCLibrary.org. to fill out a Housing Help Form to request an appointment.

Play for children with disabilities

A play day for children with disabilities and their siblings is offered every Saturday, 9:30-11:30 a.m. at the Community Recreation Center, 969 Kiely Blvd. Crafts, games and activities involve parallel play and provide exploration, self-expression, independence, social interaction, and physical development.

Play days are part of the Park & Recreation Department Therapeutic Recreation Services that serves the recreational and social needs of individuals who have disabilities. Meaningful and purposeful activities are planned that develop and enhance social skills, communication, personal growth, and focus on one’s abilities rather than disabilities. Classes such as aquatics, dance, fitness, and social clubs are offered weekly. For more information or to register, visit the Parks & Recreation page of the City website SantaClaraCA.gov.



Three ways to learn more about Police Department

The Santa Clara Police Department is scheduling three special activities that are designed to better acquaint the community with its programs and services.

Coffee With A Cop

On Friday, Jan. 18, police officers and community members will get together to have “Coffee With A Cop” while discussing issues and learning more about each other in a casual, friendly environment. For time and location, visit SCPD.org.



and interesting facts, a brief description of community programs and services, and a summary of ways to connect with SCPD. The tour portion includes stops at the Records Unit, Communications Dispatch Center and Temporary Holding Facility. RSVP required to Carolyn McDowell, 408-615-4892 or cmcdowell@santaclaraca.gov.

Department Open House

An Open House will be held at the Police Department, 601 El Camino Real, on Saturday, June 1, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. This free event will feature Police Department tours, vehicle displays including a demonstration by motorcycle officers, interactive kid-friendly activities, K-9 presentation, important tips on crime prevention and more. A complimentary bike valet will be available.

For more information, call 408-615-4700.

Get help with citizenship application

Get help preparing your citizenship application and filing a USCIS fee waiver or reduced fee request, if applicable, at Central Park Library, 2635 Homestead Rd., every third Monday of the month, 5-7:30 p.m. Guidance on the naturalization legal process, eligibility requirements, and interview will be provided. Register by phone 408-658-9206 or email sanjoseimmigration@rescue.org.

Study now for summer as a lifeguard



Individuals who would like to work as a certified lifeguard for the City of Santa Clara are invited to enroll in this spring’s Lifeguard Academy that will meet March 15, 4-9 p.m., March 23-24, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. and March 31, 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

The classes will provide the basic skills necessary to serve as a pool lifeguard including CPR for the professional rescuer, first aid, AED and lifeguard training. Certification will be given to those students who attend all class sessions, pass all written tests and perform the required skills.

Participants must be able to pass all American Red Cross prerequisites – the ability to swim 300 yards continuously, tread water for two minutes, and retrieve a 10-pound brick at a 7-10 foot depth. Register online at <https://apm.activecommunities.com/santaclara/> and enter course number 15824.

Plan ahead for evacuation situations

The horrific images from California’s November wildfires are sad reminders that a wide variety of emergencies may cause an evacuation. Although some evacuations have advance notice of a day or two, many require immediate action. Taking time now to prepare yourself, your family and your neighborhood will help to ensure that you can get out of harm’s way quickly and safely.

Detailed information on evacuation planning can be found on the website [Ready.gov](#), a public service campaign sponsored by FEMA. Here are just a few suggestions of how to get ready for the unexpected.

Where to go

Identify several places that you could go in an emergency such as the home of family or friends or a hotel. If you have pets, confirm that the place to stay will accept them. Most public shelters only allow service animals. Keep at least half a tank of gas in your vehicles at all times. If you don’t have a car, plan how you will leave if needed. Plan to take one car per family to reduce congestion and delay.



What to take

Assemble a “go-bag” for every member of your household, including pets. Include basic supplies such as sturdy shoes and clothing, snacks, cash, copies of important documents and medications. Keep water, non-perishable food and other emergency supplies in your vehicles at all times. Prepare a list in order of priority of what you want to take from your home in an emergency and post it in a location easy to find. It will help you make wise decisions when you are stressed and rushed.

Communicate

Develop a family/household communication and reunification plan to more easily find one another if separated. If time allows, leave a note in your home telling others when you left and where you are going. Check on neighbors who may need a ride or other assistance.

Young gardeners like growing and tasting vegetables

A new Garden Club program for young gardeners at the San Tomas and Monroe Community Garden is gaining in popularity as youngsters learn about the plant life cycle and take pride in their ability to grow vegetables like broccoli, cabbage and carrots. Participants get their hands dirty with planting, pulling weeds, tending to seedlings and seed saving – and they love it!

The program is offered year-round. Club members meet at the Walter E. Schmidt Youth Activity Center, 2450 Cabrillo Ave., before walking one block to their garden plot with their adult supervisor. For information or to sign up, contact Community Garden Coordinator Derek Bryant at 408-615-3740 or dbryant@santaclaraca.gov.



Open houses set for preschool programs

Open houses are scheduled in April for parents who are interested in learning more about the Adventure in Learning preschool programs for children ages 3 and 4, sponsored by the Parks & Recreation Department. Parents and children will visit classrooms, meet teachers and have their questions answered.

The open house for the program for 3-year-olds will be held on Tuesday, April 23, 5:30-6:30 p.m. at Westwood Oaks Park Building, 400 La Herran Dr. The open house for the program for 4-year-olds will be held on Wednesday, April 24, 5:30-6:30 p.m. at the Community Recreation Center, 969 Kiely Blvd. For information, call 408-615-3140.

Preserve your memories

Do you have an old shoebox filled with photos, slides or negatives that are in desperate need of preservation? Do you need to save your family movies on VHS or 8 mm? Central Park Library, 2635 Homestead Rd., has equipment to help you digitize photos and slides, convert VHS, Super 8 and 8mm, or save your cassettes.

Current lab hours are held Wednesdays, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. To schedule an appointment, visit <http://bit.ly/retratechcentral>.



Prepare for power outages

Silicon Valley Power, the City’s electric utility, works hard to prevent power outages in Santa Clara. However, some outages can’t be avoided such as those that take place during a major winter storm. Should an unexpected power outage does occur, you will be better prepared if you take these simple precautions:

- Stock an emergency kit with flashlights and batteries. Always use a flashlight instead of a candle.
- Keep cash handy.
- Buy a backup phone charger that doesn’t require an outlet and make sure to keep it fully charged.
- Keep a supply of canned food and a manual can opener.
- If you have an electric garage door opener, practice using the manual lever.
- Keep a battery-operated radio to stay informed and connected with authorities in a potential disaster situation.
- Install surge protectors on electronics to prevent damage.
- Store ice packs in the freezer to keep perishable food cold.

Find up-to-date outage information at SiliconValleyPower.com or follow @SantaClaraPower on Twitter. Visit ready.gov/power-outage or SiliconValleyPower.com/prepare for more information on emergency preparedness.

Annual Clean-up Campaign is April 29 - May 24, 2019

Find your home on the map and mark your calendar for your collection week.
Save these pages to help remember set-out instructions.

Not all developments participate in the Clean-up Campaign. Unsure about your area? Contact 408-615-3080

Collection Dates

Week 1 – Set out materials no earlier than Sat., April 27 and no later than 7 a.m., Mon., April 29.

Note: Includes both sides of Monroe.

Week 2 – Set out materials no earlier than Sat., May 4 and no later than 7 a.m., Mon., May 6.

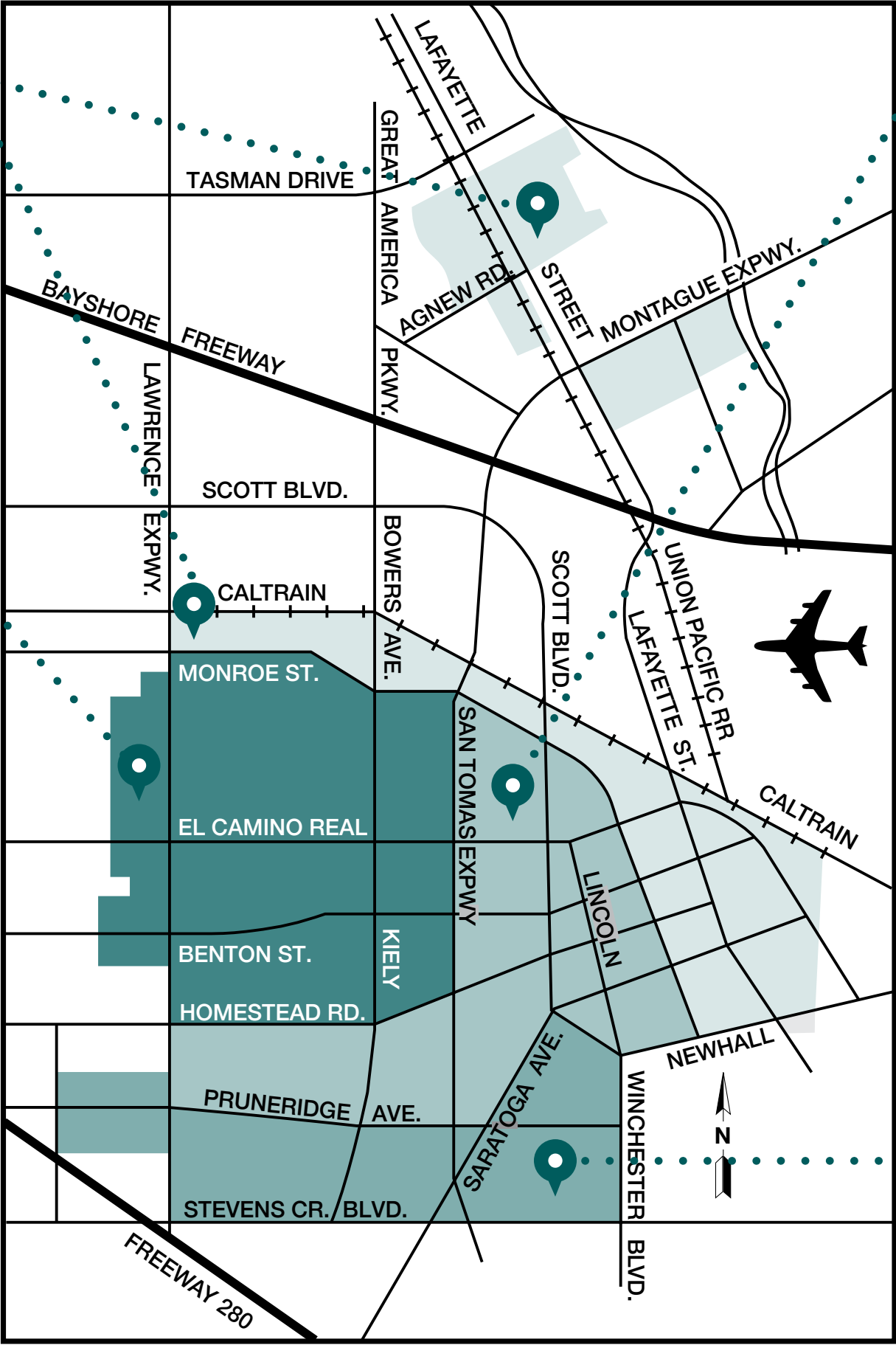
Note: Includes both sides of Homestead between San Tomas & Lawrence.

Week 3 – Set out materials no earlier than Sat., May 11 and no later than 7 a.m., Mon., May 13.

Note: Includes both sides of Newhall between Saratoga & Winchester, both sides of Saratoga between Scott & Pruneridge, and north side of Pruneridge between Saratoga & Lawrence.

Week 4 – Set out materials no earlier than Sat., May 18 and no later than 7 a.m., Mon., May 20.

Note: Includes the southside of Pruneridge between Saratoga & Lawrence and both sides of Pruneridge west of Lawrence and east of Saratoga.



Set-out instructions

- Do not set out materials in the street before the Saturday prior to your assigned collection week. Early set-outs (prior to the Saturday preceding your collection week) are subject to a **\$150.00 fine**.
- Park vehicles in your garage or driveway during your assigned collection week so it is easier for Clean-up crews to maneuver. If you must park on the street, park at least five feet away from piles.
- Do not place piles in front of curbs painted red for “No Parking,” as large piles can obstruct the view of motorists pulling out of driveways. Do not place piles in alleys or private streets, or against fences, retaining walls, fire hydrants or landscaping.

- Place your materials at least 3 feet from any obstructions such as fire hydrants, fences, poles, cars, trees, bushes or walls.
- Do not block sidewalks or bike lanes.
- Materials must be placed in the street, by the curb, in front of the house where the materials are generated (if a private street, materials must be placed on nearest public street). Placing materials in front of a neighbor’s house will be deemed illegal dumping.
- Violation notices may be left at homes where materials have been improperly set out. If you have questions about what can be set out or need assistance in determining which collection area you live in, contact the Public Works Department at 408-615-3080.



It is important to have your materials set out by 7 a.m.

Clean-up crews move street by street through the designated area. Once a street has been serviced, there is no additional free

clean-up collection that week. Don’t miss your chance! Have your materials set out by 7 a.m. on the Monday of your service week.

The annual Clean-up Campaign is a special opportunity for residents of the City of Santa Clara to set out bulky items not routinely collected by weekly garbage, Clean Green and recycling collection services.



Accepted materials

- Bulky items such as old furniture, carpets, mattresses, toilets, foam packaging, etc.
- Appliances, e-waste and tires: should be set out separately from the rest of your materials. Special crews will pick up these items and separate them for proper disposal since they cannot go in the landfill. Remove any appliance door with latch mechanisms prior to set out to prevent accidents. E-waste is anything that requires a plug or battery to operate.

- All construction/demolition debris and other materials such as including (but not limited to): interior insulation, gypsum drywall, concrete, asphalt, brick, pavers, rock, stone, dirt, sawdust or sod **must** be set out in a bulk bag no larger than 1 cubic yard (3 ft. x 3 ft. x 3 ft.) to prevent debris from getting into the storm drains. Bulk bags may be purchased at a retailer of your choice or at the City Hall Utility Payment Counter, 1500 Warburton Ave., starting April 8. One cubic yard of bagged construction/demolition debris will be collected at no charge. Additional bagged amounts are subject to a collection charge of \$25 per cubic yard. Failure to use a bulk bag when setting out the items described above is subject to a fine of up to **\$250**.
- Fencing and wood no longer than 6 feet in length. Separate from other materials, and placed parallel to the curb.
- Large pieces of yard waste: Brush, and branches should be cut to 6-foot lengths, stacked separately from other materials, and placed parallel to the curb. If it fits in the Clean Green cart, green waste should be disposed of through the weekly Clean Green collection program. Remember – do not trim or remove City street trees. This is a violation of City Code and subject to a \$1,000 fine and all associated replacement costs. Call 408-615-3080 for information.



Safe disposal of household hazardous waste

Use the Countywide Household Hazardous Waste Program to dispose of hazardous waste (paint, batteries, oil, antifreeze, household chemicals, Sharps containers, pesticides, solvents, thinners, chlorine, fluorescent bulbs/tubes, etc.). These materials pose a health and safety risk to Clean-up crews and the environment.

Free household hazardous waste drop-off events will be held in Santa Clara on Saturday, January 26, Saturday, April 27 and Saturday, September 28. You can make an appointment to attend these Santa Clara drop-off events, or any of the other scheduled drop-off events held throughout the County, by calling 408-299-7300 or online at HHW.org. Illegal set-out of hazardous materials is subject to a **\$500 fine**.



One good use deserves another

Items that are salvageable and could be re-used by someone else should not be part of the Clean-up Campaign. For information on how to donate to an organization that can recycle your useable items, visit the website RecycleStuff.org or call 1-800-533-8414 for more information.

Questions?

Call the
Public Works Department at
408-615-3080

or Email
Environment@SantaClaraCA.gov

or Visit
SantaClaraCA.gov/cleanup

Do NOT set out

- **Recyclable items** normally collected each week as part of your curbside recycling service.
- **Regular household garbage** that is collected each week as part of your regular curbside service.
- **Yard waste that can fit in your Clean Green cart** that is collected each week as part of your regular curbside service.
- **Batteries** – place them in Ziploc-style plastic bags and set on top of your black garbage cart for collection as part of your regular curbside service.
- **Used motor oil** – Place in one gallon (or less) plastic container(s) with screw-top lid. Tape the top down securely with masking or duct tape. Label the container “waste oil” and set beside the blue recycling cart for collection as part of your regular curbside service.
- **Used motor oil filters** – Seal in Ziploc-style plastic bag and place on top of your blue recycling cart for collection as part of your regular curbside service.
- **Contractor-generated landscape or construction/demolition debris.**
- **Food or bathroom waste**
- **Automobile parts containing fluids**
- **Medications.** Residents can safely dispose of expired or unwanted medications (prescription and non-prescription) at the MED-project kiosk located at the Santa Clara Police Department, 301 El Camino Real. For additional information and a list of current locations visit SCCMEDS.org
- **Liquids**
- **Explosives or ammunition.** For safe disposal, call the Santa Clara Police Department at 408-615-5580.
- **Hazardous wastes** (e.g. paint, fluorescent light fixtures, oil, antifreeze, household chemicals, pesticides, solvents, thinners, chlorine, etc.).
- **Materials not generated by your household.** The annual Clean-up Campaign is a special service exclusively for the residents of the City of Santa Clara. If you witness illegal dumping, get the driver and vehicle description, and vehicle license number and call 408-615-3080 (Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.) or 408-615-5580 (after 4:30 p.m. and weekends).

City of Santa Clara
City Hall
1500 Warburton Avenue
Santa Clara, CA 95050

INSIDE SANTA CLARA
Winter/Spring 2019
(Delivered bulk mail to every residential and business address in Santa Clara)

Inside Santa Clara Inquiries:
City Manager's Office
City Hall, 1500 Warburton Ave.,
Santa Clara, CA 95050
408-615-2210
communications@SantaClaraCA.gov

City of Santa Clara

Code of

Ethics & Values

Ethical

Professional

Service-Oriented

Fiscally Responsible

Organized

Communicative

Collaborative

Progressive

Ethics Every Day:

Making Ethical Values a

Good Habit

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City Public Meeting Schedule

Board of Library Trustees*1st Mon., 6 p.m.
Council and Authorities concurrent mtg.Two Tue. per month, 7 p.m.
Civil Service Commission.....2nd Mon., 7 p.m.
Cultural Commission **1st Mon., 7 p.m.
Historical & Landmarks Commission.....1st Thurs., 7 p.m.
Parks & Recreation Commission3rd Tue., 7 p.m.
Planning CommissionTwo Wed. per month, 6 p.m.
Senior Advisory Commission **4th Mon., 10 a.m.
Youth Commission (during the school year)***2nd Tue., 6 p.m.
Some commissions/committees meet monthly and others meet semi-monthly. Meetings are held in the City Council Chambers unless otherwise noted.

- * Meeting is at Central Park Library, 2635 Homestead Rd.
- ** Meeting is at the Senior Center, 1303 Fremont St.
- *** Meeting is at Teen Center, 2446 Cabrillo Ave.

Agendas for City Council, Santa Clara Stadium Authority and Commission meetings are posted at the City Clerk's Office at City Hall, the the City Libraries (Central Park, Northside Branch, Mission Branch), and on the City website at least 72 hours before the listed meeting. Special Council meetings are posted at least 24 hours before the listed meetings. Complete agendas with reports for City Council meetings are available at City Libraries beginning Saturday before the Tuesday meetings, or at the City Clerk's Office. The City website also allows for the viewing of Council Agenda Reports online. Visit SantaClaraCA.gov and search for "City Meetings."

Online schedule: SantaClaraCA.gov
Dates and times subject to change. Call 408-615-2220 for information.

City Council, Santa Clara Stadium Authority and Planning Commission meetings are broadcast live on Comcast Cable Channel 15 and on the City website SantaClaraCA.gov. These meetings are also streamed live on Facebook and YouTube. Archives of past City Council, Santa Clara Stadium Authority and Planning Commission meetings are on the City website SantaClaraCA.gov.

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City of
Santa Clara
The Center of What's Possible

The Newspaper for City of Santa Clara Residents & Businesses

Take care of holiday “leftovers”

The holiday season has come to a close, and it's time for residents to take care of holiday trees and any excess garbage that may have accumulated.

Set out instructions:

- Remove all ornaments and decorations from holidays trees.
- The City does not collect trees on private streets. Residents of multi-family dwellings may set out their trees on the nearest public street. Call 408-615-3080 to find out what day your area will be serviced.

- If you miss your pick-up day, or you are a commercial business, you can bring your tree (no larger than 9 feet) to the Corporation Yard, 1700 Walsh Ave., during the week of Jan. 7-11.

- After Jan. 11, cut up your tree and place the pieces in the Clean Green cart. Flocked trees should be cut up and placed in the garbage cart.

For further information on either special services, call 408-615-3080.

Extra Garbage

From Jan. 2-7, residents may set out up to two additional 32-gallon bags of garbage at no cost on their regular collection day. Note there is no collection on New Year's Day, Jan. 1, and collection is one day late the remainder of the week.

Holiday Trees

Holiday trees will be collected curbside on regular garbage collection days the week of Jan. 7-11. Unflocked trees will be recycled into mulch. Flocked trees will be collected and disposed of as garbage. Flocked trees should be bagged before setting them out to prevent stormwater pollution.



SANTA CLARA ICE
AT CENTRAL PARK

OUTDOOR ICE RINK

@ CENTRAL PARK

Last Day of Operation

Monday, January 21

Open Skate, Classes, Special & Private Events

